

Scaling Up Agricultural Projects - Best Practices, Lessons Learned and Challenges



***Pulling it all together: Opportunities and challenges of
bilateral scale-up efforts and open discussion***

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‘Scaling up means taking successful projects, programs or policies and expanding, adapting, and sustaining them in different ways over time for greater development impact’.

– J. Linn 2007

- Focus on scaling up development impacts
- Potential multiplicity of approaches
- Adapt & revise : Flexible response to context
- ‘Over time’: Impacts at scale take patience & persistence

Criteria and choices for scaled up programs

- Program choices have opportunity costs & trade-offs
- Rigorous, clear standards for selection of pathways
 - Robust evidence of pilot impact or 'success'
- Coherent sequence & progression, not simply expansion
- Synergies encouraged – markets, transport, institutions, communications, human capital, etc.

Enabling environment

- Policy, legal & regulatory context
- Decentralization to tame bureaucracy & manage diseconomies/inefficiencies of scale
 - Decentralization paradox – local autonomy implies policy coherence & consistency
- A range of empowered development actors
- Risk management

Whole of Society Ownership & Engagement

- **Meaningful stakeholder engagement facilitates broad buy-in**
- **Multi-sectoral partnerships**
 - **Based on comparative advantages & shared decision making**
- **Capacity building for State and non-state actors**
 - **Human, social, institutional**
 - **Consistency & quality control**

Scaling up political will

- Resource mobilization
- Accountability
- Manage constituent interests around investment trade-offs
- Regional, e.g. trans-boundary
- International, e.g. Donor coordination & alignment
- Patience & persistence

Bringing it all together

- Stakes are high; get scale-up pathways right
 - \$s + Time + Credibility + Life prospects for vulnerable & poor

Insert Dazzling Insight Here.

- Scaling up or closing out?
 - Even 'best bets' may foreclose other options
- Eyes on pro-poor outcomes